the city of London, which has now been presented, be printed, with a coloured map attached."

Sir J. Burgoyne stated, that some very influential gentlemen had it in contemplation to take up, upon a grand scale, a plan of utilising the sewage matter."

Books.

The Schools of Painting in Italy. Translated from the German of Kugler, by a Lady. Edited, with Notes, by Sir C. L. Eastlake, P.R.A. Second Edition. Two Parts. London: John Murray. 1851.

This new edition of Kugler's Hand-book of Painting, translated, if we mistake not, by Lady Eastlake, and edited by the accomplished President of the Royal Academy himself, is enriched with upwards of one hundred illustrations, drawn on wood by Mr. George Scharf, jun., from the works of the old masters mentioned in the book. It gives a general survey of the history of Italian painting, and will be found a valuable and pleasant instructor. Book I. treats of Early Christian art (the later Roman style, and the Byzantine style); Book II., of the Romanesque style; Book III. (the second stage of development), deals with the masters of the fourteenth century and their followers: Book IV., with the masters of the fourteenth century,—the schools of Padua, Venice, Umbria, and Naples. Book V. is devoted to the period of highest development and decline (the sixteenth century), and treats of Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raffaelle, Coreggio, and Titian; and Book VI. treats of the masters of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries,—the period of the Restoration and second decline.

We hope before long to make this work the text-book for an outline of the early history of art, and therefore content ourselves on this occasion with warmly recommending it to all who would gain a correct knowledge of the subject. It is very nicely got up, as all Mr. Murray's books are.

The Land Steward. By G. A. Dean, Agricultural Architect and Engineer: with Illustrations. London: Atchley and Co.

This is a volume of 300 pages, addressed, by the nature of its contents, to a much more numerous class of persons than its title would imply. The work may be said to be a general epitome of all that relates to land, as between landlords and tenants, as well as to intending purchasers,—each of whom will find useful information. The writer unites the advantages of being a practical agriculturist, as well as a practising farm architect. The first chapters are elucidatory of the tenure of land and buildings, the nature of dilapidations and fixtures, and the laws respecting them. The geological structure, soil, and climate of Great Britain and Ireland lead to some observations on drainage: and as this is now one of the great elements in the improvement of land, the extended inquiries on the subject by Mr. Dean are of value. The importance is evident, as hitherto the drainage of lands has been too often a work of haphazard, by persons totally unacquainted with the necessary laws of nature to ensure success. Upon farm buildings the author is at home, and makes some valuable observations on the choice of site, fitness of each class of buildings for their intended purposes, and the arrangement of farmsteads on the principles of economy of tending stock, and performing the various operations of the steading. In the construction of farm buildings the work will be found of great utility,—the improved system of agriculture imperatively demanding the superintendence of the architects for modern requirements,—the old and inconvenient erections, which were formerly made by uninstructed country carpenters, for farm buildings, being fast superseded by others. In the present state of the agricultural interests, in a condition of transition from torpor and routine to the application of science, "the land steward" becomes more than ordinarily valuable, and its readers will derive ideas of what is required at the present day, to ensure success in farming.

Miscellanea.

Escape for Foul Gases.—Mr. R. Sutcliffe, of Idle, has addressed the following letter to *The Times*, in reference to the use of a tall chimney for the purpose of carrying off foul gases. "In the month of August, 1849, while the cholera was most virulently raging, I laid a line of pipes from the privies in our mill to the chimney. The draught of the chimney was thus brought to act upon the privies, and the noxious gases were thus carried aloft into the clouds. It has, indeed, been a relief to us, and our mill now enjoys as pure an atmosphere as any private dwelling-house. I felt myself bound in duty to lay the plan before our inspector (Mr. Saunders), and at his strong recommendation it has been extensively adopted, and has in all cases been found completely to answer. In fact, I have no doubt that even London itself might be completely ventilated by draughting the effluvia from the sewers into tall furnace-chimneys, when in active operation. The sulphuretted hydrogen, already so light, would be rendered lighter still from its expansion by the heat of the chimney, and would thus be carried into the clouds, and completely dissipated."

Improvement in Painting Iron Ships.—We understand that a private trial of an apparatus for warming the plates of iron ships while in the graving-dock was made on Friday, at Messrs. Garnett and Moore's North Foundry. It has been made to the order of Mr. Bacon, painter, Oldhall-street. The great difficulty of drying the plates of iron ships to make them in a fit state for painting has been long felt, while the ordinary methods of warming them have been tedious and troublesome, as well as very uncertain. The machine tried on Friday consists of a small furnace of plate iron, lined with brick, to which is attached a small fan. The whole is very compact, and is placed on wheels, and is moved by two handles like a wheelbarrow. The fan, being set in motion by a winch, drives a rapid current of air through the fire, which is of a hard coke, and this passes out through a pipe of eight inches diameter. This pipe has at the bottom a universal joint, so that it can be moved in any direction. The mode of using it is as follows:—The machine being placed in the graving-dock, a boy turns the fan, while a man directs the pipe to the bottom or side of the ship. By these means a powerful current of hot air is jetted on the plates, which soon become dry and warm, and in a fit state for painting. The trial was made on some large plates, with water poured upon them, and the result was very satisfactory. It will shortly be applied to an iron vessel. The apparatus is the invention of Mr. Grantham, who has obtained a patent for it.—*Albion.*

Sanitary Reform.—A deputation of the members of the Metropolitan Sanitary Association had an interview within the last few days with Lord John Russell. Thirty-three gentlemen attended, among whom were Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Colonel Sykes, Colonel Thompson, M.P., the Rev. J. M. Worthington, D.D., Major-General Sir John Rolt, Mr. C. F. T. Lord, the Rev. M. W. Lusignan, M.A., and Adolphus Barnett, M.B., honorary secretaries. Sir G. Grey and Lord Seymour were present. Dr. Barnett introduced the deputation, and Dr. Worthington read a letter of excuse from the Bishop of London for non-attendance on the plea of indisposition. Dr. Barnett presented a memorial, and the Secretary drew attention to the principal points alluded to in it, and to the filthy and degraded state of various parts of the metropolis, and the necessity for the introduction of comprehensive sanitary measures. Mr. Lord said, that on behalf of 3,000 medical men, he would urge the speedy passing of a bold, comprehensive system of sanitary reform, which should embrace the abolition of the window-tax, an improved water supply to the metropolis, and the regulation of lodging-houses. Lord John Russell thanked the deputation for their attendance and information. The subject was one which had received, and would continue to receive, the serious attention of the Government. It would be admitted that much had been already done by Government, and that the difficulties which arose from the due regard for the liberty of the subject and for existing interests rendered it needful to proceed gradually and with caution.

Useful Discovery.—An elegant snuff-box, made from a particular species of carbonic coal, by the Rev. W. Mitchell, minister of the Scottish Presbyterian Church, Woolwich, will be exhibited at the Great Exhibition of all Nations. The carbonic mineral takes on a polish so very transparent and beautiful, as to vie with that of the richest and finest alabaster marble. It has been ascertained that it can be fitted into fine lobby or bed-room tables of a deep and rich polish. It will also be of great utility in forming finely-polished picture-frames, flower urns, watch-seals, pillars for mantelpieces, public monuments, and for other purposes, and at an expense so trivial as to be almost within the reach of all.—*Advertiser.* Parret coal (a species of cannel) has been made use of for many years in Scotland, in a small way, for ornamental purposes. It cuts with a fine polish, much as plumbago does, even with a common pen knife, and when properly finished yields a beautiful but somewhat frail surface of jet black colour and marble lustre. The substance alluded to by the *Advertiser* is probably the same. Other amateurs are at work on it.

English Sculptors at Rome.—A communication from Rome announces a graceful act which must be recorded to the credit of Mr. Gibson, the sculptor; and which involves a suggestion—but now a vain one—to his brethren of the Academy at home. Mr. Gibson has, it is said, put up, in the English Protestant burial-ground in that city, a monument to the memory of that fine sculptor, the late Mr. Wyatt. . . . . The Academy loses more than Mr. Wyatt in not having added its title to such titles as he had to show.—*Athenæum.*

"London Labour and the London Poor."—Under this title Mr. Henry Mayhew is publishing, in a revised form, with many additions, the startling relations first issued by him in the *Morning Chronicle.* The first portion of the work is devoted to the London world in London streets, and is illustrated by views of real life from daguerreotype reflections.

The Shop-blind Nuisance, &c.—Observing, in a recent number of The Builder, that you have been measuring (by the altitude of "the whole of your architectural framework," from ridge-tile downwards) the height of shop blinds, perhaps some of your readers may like to learn that in an Act of Parliament (10 & 11 Vict., July 22, 1847) for regulating the police of towns, clause 28 enacts "that every person who, to the obstruction, annoyance, or danger of passengers, places any *blind, shade, covering, awning,* or other projection over or along any *footway* (unless at *least eight feet in height in every part thereof from the ground*) shall be liable to a penalty of forty shillings *for each offence.* In last week's number of your useful journal, a district surveyor suggests, with regard to *halting places, &c.*, that "the paving boards of the different parishes can be at no loss to find suitable places for their erection." I beg to inform you that, in 1848, the St. John's, Clerkenwell, Paving Board constructed (under my superintendence), in Wilderness-row, by Charterhouse-wall, a public halting-place: it is in three divisions, and formed of inch smooth slate, with trapped gratings, drain, &c., and cost 15*l.*: it is supplied with water by the New River Company, at a nominal charge of 5*s.* per annum. The cistern on the top, with ball-tap, waste-pipe, &c., cost 3*l.* 5*s.* It has been a benefit to the public, and, if generally adopted, as suggested by your correspondent, would be much appreciated.

W. P. Griffith.

* We have received letters from several parties pointing out the extent to which (as they say) Mr. Forster's plan agrees with their own. One writer shows, without meaning any thing invidious, that Mr. Netherway's plan is, in many respects, identical with it. We would suggest to Mr. Forster that where he has an opportunity to give appointments to any who have worked out the subject he should do so.

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